§518.28 Unified and specified commands.

(a) The Unified Commands are placed under the jurisdiction of the OSD, instead of the administering Military Department, only for the purpose of administering the DoD FOIA Program. This policy represents an exception to the policies directed in DoD Directive 5100.3 (reference (f)); it authorizes and requires the Unified Commands to process Freedom of Information (FOI) requests in accordance with DoD Directive 5400.7 (reference (b)) and this Regulation. The Unified Commands shall forward directly to the OASD(PA), all correspondence associated with the appeal of an initial denial for records under the provisions of the FOIA. Procedures to effect this administrative requirement are outlined in appendix A. For Army components of unified commands, if the requested records are joint documents, process the FOIA request through unified command channels. If the requested documents are Army-unique, process the FOIA request through Army channels.

(b) The Specified Commands remain under the jurisdiction of the administering Military Department. The Commands shall designate IDAs within their headquarters; however, the appellate authority shall reside with the Military Department.

§518.29 Relationship between the FOIA and the Privacy Act (PA).

Not all requesters are knowledgeable of the appropriate statutory authority to cite when requesting records. In some instances, they may cite neither Act, but will imply one or both Acts. For these reasons, the following guidelines are provided to ensure that requesters receive the greatest amount of access rights under both Acts:

- (a) Requesters who seek records about themselves contained in a PA system of records and who cite or imply the PA, will have their requests processed under the provisions of the PA.
- (b) Requesters who seek records about themselves which are not contained in a PA system of records and who cite or imply the PA, will have their requests processed under the pro-

visions of the FOIA, since they have no access under the PA.

- (c) Requesters who seek records about themselves which are contained in a PA system of records and who cite or imply the FOIA or both Acts will have their requests processed under the time limits of the FOIA and the exemptions and fees of the PA. This is appropriate since greater access will be received under the PA.
- (d) Requesters who seek access to agency records and who cite or imply the PA and FOIA, will have their requests processed under the FOIA.
- (e) Requesters who seek access to agency records and who cite or imply the FOIA, will have their requests processed under the FOIA.
- (f) Requesters should be advised in final responses why their request was processed under a particular Act.

[56 FR 48932, Sept. 26, 1991, as amended at 56 FR 56010, Oct. 31, 1991]

§518.30 Records management.

FOIA records shall be maintained and disposed of in accordance with DoD Component Disposition instructions and schedules. See AR 25-400-2. AR 25-1 contains Army policy for records management requirements in the life cycle management of information. Information access and release, to include potential electronic access by the public, will be considered during information systems design.

Subpart B—FOIA Reading Rooms

REQUIREMENTS

§518.31 Reading room.

Each Component shall provide an appropriate facility or facilities where the public may inspect and copy or have copied the materials described below. In addition to the materials described below, Components may elect to place other documents in their reading room as a means to provide public access to such documents. DoD Components may share reading room facilities if the public is not unduly inconvenienced. When appropriate, the cost of copying may be imposed on the person requesting the material in accordance with the provisions of subpart F of this part. The Army FOIA Reading